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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION SR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-14 ADS-00 RP-10 HA-05 AID-05
OMB-01 EB-08 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SS-15
NSCE-00 SP-02 AGRE-00 COME-00 ICAE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 NEA-06 EUR-12 /103 W
-----049931 101933Z /43

O 101838Z JAN 80
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1267
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 00446

FOR AMBASSADOR KUMMEL FROM AMBASSADOR HELMAN

ROME FOR FODAG

KUALA LUMPUR FOR REFCOORD PALMIERI

E.O. 12065: GDS 1/10/86 (HELMAN, GERALD) OR-M
TAGS: SREF, SHUM, ERID, UNHCR, WFP, AF, PK
SUBJECT: UNHCR PROGRAM IN PAKISTAN
REFERENCE: GENEVA 259

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. I SAW HIGH COMMISSIONER HARTLING JANUARY 10 AND CAME
AWAY SATISFIED THAT PAKISTAN HAS BEEN GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY
WITHIN UNHCR. HARTLING'S CHOICE TO HEAD THE UNHCR
PAKISTAN OPERATION, KOHAUT, HAS AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION
WITHIN UNHCR AS A PROGRAM MANAGER FROM HIS EXPERIENCE IN
RUNNING THE CYPRUS AND BURMA-BANGLADESH OPERATIONS. I
MET KOHAUT VERY BRIEFLY AS I WAS LEAVING AND IMPRESSED
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ON HIM THE READINESS OF OUR EMBASSY TO MEET A. POSSIBLE

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SUPPORT. KOHAUT ASSURED ME THAT HE HOPES TO MEET WITH YOU AND YOUR STAFF VERY SOON AFTER HIS ARRIVAL. AT HARTLING'S REQUEST, KOHAUT HAS ADVANCED HIS DEPARTURE FROM GENEVA TO JANUARY 12.

3. PRINCIPAL QUESTION WHICH AROSE IN MY TALK WITH HARTLING WAS THE LATTER'S REPORT FROM THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM THAT IT DID NOT AT PRESENT HAVE FOOD AVAILABLE FOR SHIPMENT TO PAKISTAN. IF UNHCR HAS TO PURCHASE FOOD, HARTLING ESTIMATED THAT HIS BUDGET WOULD RISE BY DOLS 25 MILLION, FROM DOLS 35 MILLION TO DOLS 60 MILLION FOR 500,000 REFUGEES. HE PLANS TO HAVE APPEAL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS READY FOR ISSUANCE JANUARY 14 OR 15. IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, APPEAL WILL BE SENT TO SELECTED GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING SAUDI ARABIA AND THE GULF STATES, WITH GENERAL APPEAL TO BE LAUNCHED IN CONNECTION WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S REPORT TO THE UNHCR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JANUARY 28.

4. HARTLING SHARES OUR PERCEPTION OF THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM AND ITS POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. HE IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE ON THE LATTER POINT AS RESULT OF VERBAL ATTACK ON UNHCR IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE BY FORMER AFGHAN REGIME. HIS DEFENSE AGAINST CHARGE OF ARMING REBELS ALONG THE BORDER IS THAT REFUGEES ARE MOVED TO RELIEF AREAS AWAY FROM THE BORDER AND THAT NO ASSISTANCE IS GIVEN IN CASH WHICH COULD BE USED TO PURCHASE WEAPONS.

5. INITIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO RELIEF EFFORT INCLUDE TWO PLANELOADS OF RELIEF COMMODITIES FROM FRG AND OFFER OF DOLS TWO MILLION CASH FROM NORWAY. HARTLING COMMENTED IN AN ASIDE THAT SCANDINAVIANS ARE SEEKING
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PROPER WAY TO RESPOND TO SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN. IN ABSENCE OF ANY PERCEIVED POSSIBILITY FOR ROLE WITHIN AFGHANISTAN AT PRESENT, THEY WILL DO WHAT THEY CAN TO HELP PAKISTAN, IN PART BY SEEKING TO EASE REFUGEE BURDEN.
HELMAN

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